



State of Maryland

Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene/Planning Council

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary, DHMH

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HYGIENE/ PL 102-321 PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

May 20, 2014

Maryland Advisory Council Members: Gerald Beemer, Dennis McDowell, Joanne Meekins, Livia Pazourek, Anita Solomon, John Turner

Maryland Advisory Council Members Absent: Richard Blair, Jaimi L. Brown, Sarah Burns, Chair; M. Sue Diehl, Vice Chair; Mike Finkle, Michele Forzley, Joshana Goga, Edwin C. Oliver, Robert M. Pender, Charles Reifsnider, John Scharf, Sherrie Wilcox

Individuals highlighted as such are resigned members who have not yet been replaced.

PL 102-321 Council Members Present: Robert Anderson, Michael Bluestone, Chicquita Crawford, Herb Cromwell, Jan Desper, Kate Farinholt, Nancy Feeley, Julie Jerscheid, Alexis Moss, Cynthia Petion, Jacqueline Powell, Linda Raines, Sarah Rhine, Phoenix Woody

PL 102-321 Council Members Absent: Lynn Albizo, T.E. Arthur, Coordinator; Naomi Booker, Eugenia W. Conolly, R. Terence Farrell, Vira Froehlinger, Ann Geddes, A. Scott Gibson, Victor Henderson, Sharon Lipford, George Lipman, Michael Lang, William Manahan, Dan Martin, Sheryl Sparer, Michelle Stewart, Kathleen Ward

MHA Staff Present: Brian Hepburn, Greta Carter

Guests and Others:

Zereana Jess – Huff, ValueOptions@Maryland;
Jessica Honke, National Alliance on Mental Illness of Maryland;
Tim Santoni, University of Maryland-Systems Evaluation Center;
Ashley Wodard, Maryland Disability Law Center Intern;
Gray Barton, State Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council

c/o Mental Hygiene Administration

Spring Grove Hospital Center – 55 Wade Avenue – Dix Building – Catonsville MD 21228 – (410) 402-8473
TDD for Disabled – Maryland Relay Service (800) 735-2258

Healthy People in Healthy Communities

INTRODUCTIONS/ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order by MHA's Council Representative, Cynthia Petion. Attendees introduced themselves. The draft minutes of the April 15, 2014 meeting were approved with correction electronically on May 20, 2014. The time for the NAMI Walk on May 31st was incorrect; the walk is from 3 to 6pm, West Shore Park, Inner Harbor, front door located between the Science Center and the Visitor's Center. Please note that the corrected minutes will be posted on MHA's Web site, www.dhmh.maryland.gov/mha. The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene's link is listed under "Resources".

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Cynthia Petion gave updates on following initiatives:

- The Joint Council's letter in response to the Treatment Advocacy Center (TAC) report has been completed. Ms. Petion reported that Sarah Rhines developed the initial draft that was disseminated to the Joint Council officers. After their input, the letter was emailed to Joint Council members. Changes/suggestions were incorporated into the final letter.
- Federal Mental Health Block Grant update: In its FY 2014 appropriation, Congress allocated additional funds to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support "evidence-based programs that address the needs of individuals with early serious mental illness. States are required to set-aside 5 percent of their Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) allocation to support this activity. An increase in the 2014 MHBG funding over the FY 2013 level was provided to States to help meet this new requirement. States are required to "revise" the FY 2014 -2015 MHBG Application to describe planned activities for the funding that will provide supports and services for those with early SMI/first episode psychosis.

MHA's Office of Planning is revising the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) Plan to reflect that Maryland will expand the existing early psychosis intervention program which was established in 2009 entitled Recovery After an Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE) Connection Program. RAISE Connection is an intensive outpatient treatment with weekly sessions of wrap-around services including medication management with a psychiatrist, talk therapy with licensed social workers, substance use treatment, and education and work support. The goal of RAISE is designed to provide community-based, recovery oriented individualized services to persons who are within the first one to two years of developing psychosis and schizophrenia. The revision to the MHBG is due to SAMHSA by May 29th.

- Kate Farinholt announced that the NAMI Walk will take place on May 31, 2014, from 3-6 pm at the West Shore Park, Inner Harbor, located between the Science Center and the Visitor's Center.
- The Behavioral Health Council Workgroup will convene on June 9, 2014 via conference call to finalize the draft Proposal for a Behavioral Health Council. Both Councils will have an opportunity to review the document for comments/changes. The draft will

include the mission statement, membership, duties and committees. Upon the Council's review and input, the final draft will be submitted to Rianna Brown-Matthews, DHMH Chief of Staff to Deputy Secretary Gayle Jordan-Randolph. Ms. Brown-Matthews will share the final proposal with the HB 1510 Behavioral Health Administration Workgroup. Upon receipt of the draft document, Ms. Petion encouraged members to review the proposal and send comments or concerns back to Office of Planning staff in a timely manner.

- On Our Own of Maryland's (OOOMD) Annual Conference, "Riding the Waves: The Art and Science of Creating Happiness", will take place on June 5-6, 2014 at the Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland. Deborah Trueheart, national trainer, consultant, artist, and motivational speaker will deliver the keynote speech. For further information, contact OOOMD at 410-646-0262 or email: oomd@onourownmd.org .

THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Brian Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director of MHA, delivered the following report:

Dr. Hepburn opened his discussion with data entitled "Mental disorders are the chronic diseases of the young". Based on this data, the following issues were noted:

- 75 to 80 percent of individuals who will develop a chronic mental illness or substance use problem will be identified by the age of 25.
- Cost will be higher in the Medicaid years not in the Medicare years (due to mental illness or a substance use problem).
- Because young individuals have not developed their skill set; nor formed an earning capacity, additional planning will be needed for this age group that will provide them the skill set and resources to help them to succeed.
- Over the past couple of years, programs such as Maryland's Early Intervention Program at the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center and first episode of psychosis-Project RAISE/Connection, at the University of Maryland have been developed based on mental health data of youth and young adults. The goal of first episode psychosis programs is to provide community-based recovery-oriented individualized services to persons who are within the first one to two years of developing psychosis and schizophrenia.

To enhance future Director Report highlights, Dr. Hepburn encourages members to submit questions on topics of interest to Cynthia Petion at Cynthia.Petion@maryland.gov . .

PRESENTATION – Maryland's Commitment to Veterans - Shauna Donahue, Director and David Galloway, Central Regional Resource Coordinator, DHMH Maryland's Commitment to Veterans

Ms. Donahue and Mr. Galloway provided an overview of Maryland's Commitment to Veterans program:

- 2008 – Governor O'Malley approves Chapter 555, following House of Delegates and Senate discussion and amendments. The Act allows for a three year initiative establishing veteran behavioral health coordination through Maryland's Commitment to Veterans (MCV). The law took effect on June 1, 2008 and was to remain in place for

three years – until May 31, 2011. 2011- Governor O'Malley approves Chapter 81 that codifies MCV into law with no sunset.

- MCV, a program under DHMH established to connect veterans to behavioral health services either through the VA, DHMH, or community providers
- MCV Regional Resource Coordinator (RRC) assists with VA health care enrollment, facilitate and cover transportation costs to behavioral health appointments. Provides information and referrals related to VA benefits, employment, education, and housing. Provides outreach to educate veterans, residents, and community groups about MCV.
- As of May 2014 – For the first time in program history, three MCV RRCs are Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) instructors and can train veterans and their families or those working with veterans and their families on MHFA.
- October 2008 (program inception) to March 2014 MCV has assisted approximately 6,890 veterans and their families throughout the state of Maryland
- 1-877-770-4801 calls accepted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; the caller is connected to a Regional Resource Coordinator (RRC).
 - Veterans.dhmh.maryland.gov
 - Facebook Fan Page – search Maryland's Commitment to Veterans

Ms. Donahue and Mr. Galloway provide free presentations on the Maryland's Commitment to Veterans program. For additional information please call 1-877-770-4801 or veterans.dhmh.maryland.gov/.

Please see the attached handout for additional information.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

FY 2015 MHA State Mental Health Plan Development Process:

Cynthia Petion thanked everyone for their participation in the April 25th Stakeholder's meeting held at the Temple Oheb Shalom. Approximately 75 people participated in the annual State mental health plan process/activity. Representatives included consumer, family and provider organizations, local and state agencies, mental health/substance abuse providers, and CSA directors. The group activities included brainstorming session on ideas and suggestions for strategies of current issues and priority areas in public mental health system. Suggestions from the group will be incorporated into the FY 2015 State Plan.

The next steps include the review of the draft plan by the Planning Committee of the Joint Council. A meeting for this process is planned on June 17, 2014 at MHA's Mitchell Bldg. at 11:15, after the Combined Councils meeting.

The Executive Committee will not meet today.

The meeting was adjourned.

The Agenda for the July 15th Council meeting will be posted on the Advisory's Council's web page, under the resources section, on MHA's Web site www.dhmh.maryland.gov/mha.